

Consumer Affairs Agencies

Division of Banks

Division of Insurance

Division of Professional Licensure

*Department of
Telecommunications and Cable*

Division of Standards

State Racing Commission

Massachusetts Office of Consumer Affairs & Business Regulation

CONSUMER ADVISORY

Analog TV Owners Beware!

The federal government has mandated that on February 17, 2009, U.S. broadcasters must shut down analog TV broadcasts. But the transition to digital television does not mean you have to buy a new TV!

To protect you from misinformation or potential fraud, the Office of Consumer Affairs and Business Regulation and the Department of Telecommunications and Cable want you to be aware that some retailers may try to persuade you to buy a new, expensive TV or premium converter box.

If you have an analog TV, you have the following options:

- Buy a digital converter box (costs range from \$40-\$70+)
- Subscribe to cable or satellite TV service (if available)

Digital converter boxes are the least expensive option and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) has certified more than 80 boxes that can be purchased with DTV Converter box coupons. To see a complete list of DTV Converter Boxes go to https://www.ntiadtvtv.gov/cecb_list.cfm.

Each household is eligible for two coupons in the amount of \$40 each. You can apply for your coupons at <https://www.dtv2009.gov/ApplyCoupon.aspx> or call the coupon program hotline at 1-888-DTV-2009 (1-888-388-2009). **Be aware that the coupons expire 90 days after issue so be sure to use yours within three months of the date of issuance, not delivery, to you.**

For more information, call the Massachusetts Department of Telecommunications and Cable at 1-800-392-6066 or go to www.mass.gov/dtc.

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